

REMARKS

Claims 35, 39, 47, 49, 50, 52-54, 60 and 64-68 are pending. By this Amendment, claims 35, 47, 52, 60, 65 and 67 are amended, and claims 48, 51, 56, 57, 59 and 69-79 are canceled.

Applicants appreciate the indication that claims 50 and 54 are allowed and that claims 48, 49, 52, 53 and 64 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. The subject matter of claims 48 and 64 have been incorporated into independent claims 47 and 60, respectively. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims are in condition for allowance.

Entry of the amendments is proper under 37 CFR §1.116 since the amendments: (a) place the application in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed herein; (b) do not raise any new issue requiring further search and/or consideration as the amendments amplify issues previously discussed throughout prosecution; (c) satisfy a requirement of form asserted in the previous Office Action; and (d) place the application in better form for appeal, should an appeal be necessary. In particular, claim 47 is amended herein to incorporate the features of allowable claim 48. In addition, claim 60 is amended herein to incorporate the features of allowable claim 64. Claim 52 is merely amended to change its dependency based on the incorporation of claim 48 into claim 47. Claims 35, 65 and 67 are merely amended as requested in the Office Action. The amendments are necessary and were not earlier presented because they are made in response to arguments raised in the final rejection. Entry of the amendments is thus respectfully requested.

Claims 35, 65, 67 and 76 are objected to based on an informality. Claim 76 has been canceled. Claims 35, 65 and 67 have been amended to delete the objected to phrase. Therefore, the objection should be withdrawn.

Claims 69-79 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, for allegedly containing new matter. In addition, claims 69-77 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as allegedly lacking written description. Claims 69-79 are canceled herein rendering the rejections of these claims moot.

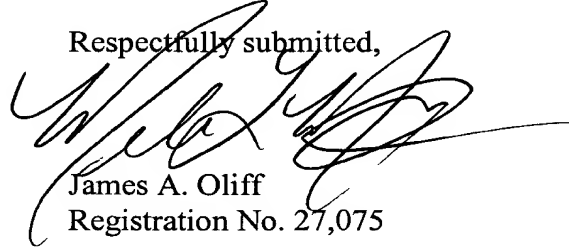
Claims 35, 39, 47, 51, 56, 57, 59, 60 and 65-79 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, for allegedly lacking enablement. Claims 51, 56, 57, 59 and 69-79 have been canceled rendering the rejection of these claims moot. With regard to the remaining claims, Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection.

Independent claims 47 and 60 have been amended herein to incorporate the features of allowable claims 48 and 64, respectively. Based on these amendments, the rejection of claims 47 and 60, as well as of claims 35, 39 and 65-68, which depend from either claims 47 or 60, should be reconsidered and withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of the pending claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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